REMARKS

Favorable consideration of this application is respectfully requested.

Claims 27-38 are currently active in this case (corresponding to invention IV noted in the Restriction Requirement in the grand-parent case Serial No. 09/487,766). Claim 27 has been amended, and Claims 1-26 have been cancelled by way of the present amendment. The amended claim is supported by the specification and claims as originally submitted and no new matter has been

added.

Please cancel Claims 1-26 without prejudice.

Consequently, no further issues are believed to be outstanding, and it is respectfully submitted that this case is in condition for allowance. An early and favorable action is respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted, REED SMITH LLP

Dated: February 17, 2003

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